

AN ORDINANCE OF THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS OF PALM BEACH COUNTY, FLORIDA, AMENDING CHAPTER 13, ARTICLE II, DIVISION 3 OF THE PALM BEACH COUNTY CODE, KNOWN AS THE "PALM BEACH COUNTY FIRE RESCUE EMERGENCY TRANSPORT FEE ORDINANCE"; CLARIFYING THE DEFINITION OF BASIC LIFE SUPPORT; PROVIDING CLASSIFICATIONS OF ADVANCED LIFE SUPPORT SERVICES; PROVIDING FOR AN INCREASE IN EMERGENCY TRANSPORT FEES; ESTABLISHING A FEE FOR ALS2 TRANSPORTS; PROVIDING FOR REPEAL OF LAWS IN CONFLICT; PROVIDING FOR SEVERABILITY; PROVIDING FOR INCLUSION IN THE CODE OF LAWS AND ORDINANCES; AND PROVIDING FOR AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

WHEREAS, the Board of County Commissioners enacted Chapter 13, Article II, Division 3 of the Palm Beach County Code, known as the "Palm Beach County Fire Rescue Emergency Transport Fee Ordinance," which established fees to be charged by Palm Beach County Fire-Rescue for the provision of transport services; and

WHEREAS, effective April 1, 2002, Medicare has proposed new reimbursement rules and guidelines and a new fee schedule; and

WHEREAS, as a result of these changes, the Board of County Commissioners desires to amend its present fee schedule.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED BY THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS OF PALM BEACH COUNTY, FLORIDA, that:

SECTION 1. Section 13-57, paragraphs (a) and (b), of Chapter 13, Article II, Division 3 of the Palm Beach County Code, is hereby amended as follows:

- (a) Basic Life Support (BLS) services include the treatment of medical emergencies by a qualified person through the use of techniques such as patient assessment, cardiopulmonary resuscitation (CPR), splinting, obstetrical assistance, bandaging, administration of oxygen, application of medical anti-shock trousers, administration of a subcutaneous injection using a pre-measured auto-injector of epinephrine to a person suffering an anaphylactic reaction, and other techniques described in the Emergency Medical Technician Basic Training Course Curriculum of the United States

~~Department of Transportation provision of treatment services, or the use of consumable or disposable supplies which does not rise to the level of the provision of advanced life support services. BLS is services rendered to patients which do not require invasive techniques, which include, but are not limited to, simple bandaging, minor splinting, and simple immobilization.~~

(b) Advanced life support services means the treatment of life-threatening emergencies through the use of techniques such as endotracheal intubation, the administration of intravenous fluids, medications, telemetry, cardiac monitoring, cardiac defibrillation, and the use of external pacemakers by a qualified paramedic. Advanced life support services are classified in two categories as follows:

(1) Advanced Life Support, Level 1 (ALS1): Where medically necessary, the provision of an assessment by an advanced life support (ALS) provider and/or the provision of one or more ALS interventions. An ALS intervention is defined as a procedure beyond the scope of an EMT-Basic as defined in the National EMS Education and Practice Blueprint.

(2) Advanced Life Support, Level 2 (ALS2): Where medically necessary, the administration of at least three different medications and/or the provision of one or more of the following ALS procedures:

- Manual defibrillation/cardioversion.
- Endotracheal intubation.
- Central venous line.
- Cardiac pacing.
- Chest decompression.
- Surgical airway.
- Intraosseous line.



1           **SECTION 2.**       Section 13-58, paragraphs (a) and (b), of  
2 Chapter 13, Article II, Division 3 of the Palm Beach County Code,  
3 are hereby amended as follows:

4           (a) There are hereby established certain emergency transport  
5 fees and charges for county fire-rescue services. A fee  
6 shall be imposed for the provision of basic life support  
7 services (BLS); and advance life support services level  
8 1 and 2 (ALS1 and ALS2) transports ~~and for the provision~~  
9 ~~of advanced life support services (ALS) transport~~, and a  
10 service charge shall be imposed for milage ~~and oxygen~~.

11          (b) The following fees and service charges are to be imposed:

12           (1) BLS Transport Fee	<del>\$225.00</del>	<u>\$300.00</u>
13           (2) ALS1 Transport Fee	<del>\$325.00</del>	<u>\$340.00</u>
14           (3) <u>ALS2 Transport Fee</u>		<u>\$450.00</u>
15           (4) Mileage		\$7.50 per mile

16           **SECTION 3.       Repeal of Laws in Conflict**

17          All local laws and ordinances in conflict with any provisions  
18 of this ordinance are hereby repealed to the extent of such  
19 conflict.

20           **SECTION 4.       Severability:**

21          If any section, paragraph, sentence, clause, phrase, or word  
22 of this ordinance is for any reason held by a Court to be  
23 unconstitutional, inoperative or void, such holding shall not  
24 affect the remainder of this ordinance.

25           **SECTION 5.       Inclusion in the Code of Laws and Ordinances:**

26          The provisions of this ordinance shall become and be made a  
27 part of the Code of Laws and Ordinances of Palm Beach County,  
28 Florida. The sections of this ordinance may be renumbered or re-  
29 lettered to accomplish such, and the word "ordinance" may be  
30 changed to "section", "article", or any other appropriate word.

31           **SECTION 6.       Effective Date:**

32          The provisions of this ordinance shall become effective April  
33 1, 2002.

**APPROVED AND ADOPTED** by the Board of County Commissioners of

Palm Beach County, Florida, on the 12 day of March, 2002.

Attest:

PALM BEACH COUNTY, FLORIDA, BY ITS  
BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

Dorothy H. Wilken Clerk

By: Andrea C. H.  
Deputy Clerk

Warren H. Newell, Chairman

APPROVED AS TO FORM AND  
LEGAL SUFFICIENCY

County Attorney

Filed with the Department of State on the 22 day of

March, 2002.

STATE OF FLORIDA, COUNTY OF PALM BEACH  
I, DOROTHY H. WILKEN, ex-officio Clerk of the  
Board of County Commissioners certify this to be a  
true and correct copy of the original filed in my office  
on march 12, 2002

DATED at West Palm Beach, FL on 4/3/02.  
DOROTHY H. WILKEN, Clerk

DOROTHY H. WILKEN, Clerk

By: Marian Brown D.C.